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IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
OCTOBER TERM, 1970

No. 70-168
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ERNEST KLEIN,

Petitioner,

vs.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK, JOHN J. BOWER and BOWER, O'CONNER AND TAYLOR,

Respondents.

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

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STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY
OF NEW YORK, JOHN J. BOWER
AND BOWER, O'CONNOR & TAYLOR,
Respondents.

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

To the Supreme Court of the United States:

Ernest Klein, Petitioner pro se, prays for a writ of certiorari to review the orders of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, denying petitioner's motion to retain counsel to handle his appeal, granting the cross-motion of the respondents John J. Bower and Bower O'Connor & Gardner to dismiss petitioner's appeal from an order and judgment of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York, for lack of jurisdiction, and denying petitioner a rehearing of his motion and reinstatement of said appeal.

OPINIONS BELOW

The three orders of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit are printed as Appendix A, B and C, infra. The Memorandum and Order of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York is printed as Appendix D, infra. The injunction order issued by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York is printed as Appendix E, infra.

JURISDICTION

Two orders of the Circuit Court of Appeals were entered November 30, 1970, and the third order was entered on February 16, 1971. The injunction order was entered on July 10, 1968. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under the Constitution of the United States and the Civil Rights Act.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Circuit Court of Appeals has jurisdiction to entertain petitioner's appeal?

2. Whether the Circuit Court of Appeals erred in not considering petitioner's application to allow him to engate counsel and declare that such engagement of counsel was not violative of the injunction order?

3. Whether petitioner's civil and constitutional rights to freedom of speech, to counsel, to access to the courts and public and quasi public officials and the pursuit of his civil and criminal remedies against violations of law are denied to him; and whether his liberty and property were and are denied without due process of law?

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS INVOLVED

1. Article IV No. 2 (1). Petitioner is denied the same privileges accorded to citizens to the State of New York and several states.

2. The Fifth Amendment. Petitioner is deprived of his liberty and property without due process of law.

3. The Fourteenth Amendment. Petitioner is denied due process of law and equal protection thereof.

4. Title 18 U.S.C. No. 241; Title 42 U.S.C. No. 1983, and No. 1985. Petitioner is deprived of his constitutional and civil rights.

STATEMENT

An action was commenced by respondents John J. Bower and Bower, O'Connor & Taylor, in Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, on or about March 25, 1968 (herein called the "Bower Action"), against petitioner and others, for slander, malicious prosecution and conspiracy to molest and harass said respondents and for an injunction.

Some eight years prior to the commencement of the "Bower Action", petitioner commenced an action, in April 1961, in Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, entitled: Ernest Klein, Plaintiff, against, Securities Clearence Corp., Commercial Bank of North America, Amalgamated Bank and Trust Co., Belgian-American Banking Corporation, Jacques Fisher, Jerome Ackerman, Jack Ackerman, Max Ackerman, Barbara Ackerman, Ethel Ackerman and John Bower (herein called the Klein Action").

Petitioner was seeking damages of over $640,000.00, in connection with his securities which were pledged by Petitioner with said Securities Clearance Corp., and which securities were not returned to Petitioner on demand therefor, but converted by certain defendants, including Respondent John J. Bower, the president of said Securities Clearance Corp. Said action came on for trial in April of 1966, and was dismissed by the court at the end of Petitioner's case.

During the pendency of the "Klein Action", and before trial, various affidavits were submitted on behalf of Respondent, John J. Bower, which Petitioner discovered, after trial, on information and belief, in more than one instance, to be perjurious and fraudulent, and some of the signatures thereon, forgeries.

After the trial of the "Klein Action", between the end of 1966 and the beginning of 1968, Petitioner discovered evidence of fraudulent mainpulations practiced by certain defendants including Respondent John J. Bower, in said "Klein Action", whereby they stole Petitioner's securities.

During said investigation, Petitioner further discovered upon information and belief, and from the opinions of various handwriting experts, (a) that certain signatures alleged to be those of one William F. O'Connor, as Notary Public on affidavits in the said action were not his genuine signatures and (b) that a signature of one William F. O'Connor affixed on an affidavit, as affiant, was not signed by the said William F. O'Connor.

Petitioner thereafter further discovered that numerous original affidavits and exhibits had disappeared from the court file, in the "Klein Action".

In order to have the exhibits available for a new trial which Petitioner planned to commence, he obtained an order, from Mr. Justice William C. Hecht, Jr., at Special Term, Part I, Supreme Court, New York County, made on March 6, 1968, sealing said court file and directing the District Attorney of New York County to return all filed papers in his possession to the file.

On March 29, 1968, Petitioner made another motion in Supreme Court, New York County, Special Term, Part I, for an order requiring Bank of North America, a former defendant in the "Klein Action", to deposit in the said court file various exhibits marked at said trial, containing over 100 signatures reading John J. Bower, and requiring Millard & Greene Esqs., attorneys for one of the other defendants in the "Klein Action", to deposit in the court file another exhibit marked at said trial, to wit, a check for $3,029.27, made out payable to the order of Petitioner, bearing an original signature reading John J. Bower.

Respondent John J. Bower had testified at the trial of the "Klein Action", that none of said signatures were his.

Respondent John J. Bower, who was the key defendant in the "Klein Action" was served with all such motion papers and hense was apprised of the fact that Petitioner were preparing to move for a n ew trial in the "Klein Action" and obtain possible criminal prosecution against Respondent John J. Bower and others.

It was during the pendency of Petitioner's second motion for deposit of other exhibits, that on March 29, 1968, while Petitioner was in the courtroom, the summons in the "Bower Action" was served upon Petitioner.

The complaint in the "Bower Action" was served on or about April 26, 1968.

Prior to service of Petitioner's Answer, Respondents, John J. Bower and O'Connor & Taylor, moved at Special Term, Part I, Supreme Court, New York County, for a Preliminary Injunction Order against Petitioner and others, returnable May 27, 1968.

Mr. Justice Murphy (Supreme Court, New York County) granted the motion, and issued an injunction order on July 10, 1968, a copy of which is printed as Appendix E.

Petitioner then moved to modify said injunction order and advised the court that said injunction was unrestricted, that some limitations of the order should be made to protect Petitioner's pending actions, present and future rights.

The motion was referered to Mr. Justice Murphy, who, by order dated October 31, 1968, denied it without opinion.

Petitioner appealed from said order to the Appellate Division, First Department which affirmed the order of Justice Murphy without opinion, by order dated January 15, 1970.

Petitioner then sought leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals of the State of New York, which denied his application on the ground that said injunction order was not a final order and hence not appealable.

Thereafter, in July of 1970 Petitioner commenced this action in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York, under No. 70 Civil 63, for the relief requested i.e. a declaratory judgment that the said State Court injunction order was unconstitutional.

The U.S. District Court, for the Eastern District of New York dismissed the petition without prejudice to commence under an action 42 U.S.C. No. 1983, 1985 (2). (Appendix E.)

Petitioner appealed from said decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the second Circuit.

After filing the Notice of Appeal, Petitioner moved in the Circuit Court of Appeals for permission to retain counsel to his appeal. On cross-motion by Respondent John J. Bower and Bower O'Connor & Taylor, the Circuit of Appeals Court dismissed the appeal, for lack of jurisdiction, and, by separate order, denied Petitioner's motion, as moot. (Appendix A & B)

Petitioner then moved for a rehearing of his motion and for reinstating his appeal, which was denied, by order dated Feb. 16, 1971, Appendix C.

ARGUMENT

Petitioner respectfully submits that the Circuit Court of Appeals have jurisdiction to entertain Petitioner's Appeal, because Petitioner's basic constitutional, private and property rights were involved;

That the petition in the District Court for a declaratory judgment was equivalent to an action for such relief, under the protection of the Constitution and the Civil Rights statute.

Consequently, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was in error in not entertaining jusisdiction and also erred in refusing to allow plaintiff to retain an attorney to, appear, prossecute and to argue in opposition to respondents' Cross Motion.

CONCLUSION

The petition for a writ of certiorari should be granted.

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APPENDIX A

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

Second Circuit

At a Stated Term of the United States Court of Appeals, in and for the Second Circuit, held at the United States Court House, in the City of New York, on the Thirtieth day of November, one thousand nine hundred and seventy.

Present, Hon. Henry J. Friendly, Hon. J. Joseph Smith,
Hon. Robert P. Anderson, *Circuit Judges*

Ernest Klein,

Petitioner-Appellant,

v.

Supreme Court of the State of
New York, County of New York

Respondent-Appellee.

It is hereby ordered that the motion made herein by appellant pro-se by notice of motion dated November 9, 1970 for leave to retain counsel and extend time to file a brief and appendix to the briefs and other and further relief be and it hereby is denied as moot.

A. DANIEL FUSARO
Clerk

APPENDIX B

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

Second Circuit

At at Stated Term of the United States Court of Appeals, in and for the Second Circuit, held at the United States Court House, in the City of New York, on the Thirtieth day of November, one thousand nine hundred and seventy.

Present, Hon. Henry J. Friendly, Hon. J. Joseph Smith,
Hon. Robert P. Anderson, *Circuit Judges*

Ernest Klein,

Petitioner-Appellant,

v.

Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York,

Respondent-Appellee.

It is hereby ordered that the motion made herein by counsel for the

appellee

by notice of motion dated November 20, 1970 to dismiss the appeal from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York for lack of jurisdiction be and it hereby is granted.

A. DANIEL FUSARO
Clerk

APPENDIX C

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
SECOND CIRCUIT

Present, Hon. Henry J. Friendly, Hon. J. Joseph Smith,
Hon. Robert P. Anderson, *Circuit Judges*

Ernest Klein,

Petitioner-Appellant,

v.

Supreme Court of the State of New York,
County of New York,

Respondent-Appellee.

A petition for a rehearing together with a motion to reinstate the appeal having been filed herein by appellant pro-se,

Upon consideration thereof, it is ordered that said petition be and it hereby is denied.

February 16, 1971

APPENDIX D

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

ERNEST KLEIN

Petitioner,

-against-

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NEW YORK,

Respondent.

70 C 980

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

On July 10, 1968, Petitioner had entered against him in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, a formidable order enjoining him, pendente lite from interfering with John J. Bower (a lawyer) and his firm (Bower, O'Connor & Taylor) in their business and profession, from bringing any charge or instituting any claim or inquiry, public or private, against them, their employees or their families, from issuing any summonses, complaints or counterclaims (even in the pending action) against them, and from issuing any civil process against them; the order stayed all Petitioner's pending actions against Bower and his firm, enjoined the issuance of any civil process against them or instigating its issuance, harassing Bower and his firm by the use of quasi-public or private agencies, from making or instigating the making of personal inquiries about Bower, him firm, its employees and their families and from leading people to believe that Bower, his firm or its employees are under inquiry; the order requires Petitioner to cease and desist from in any way impugning the honesty or integrity or professional conduct of Bower, his firm, its employees and their families. The order of injunction was made

in an action, not yet tried, against Petitioner and others for alleged tortious misconduct that, broadly, comprised alleged vexatious litigation, slander, and the use of a variety of harassing activities. The whole matter apparently grew out of financial transactions of Petitioner in 1958 with a securties firm represented by Bower, O'Connor & Taylor, or a predecessor firm; that transaction led to a 1961 State Court suit against the securities firm, a banking firm, certain persons associated with the securities firm and John Bower: Tried to a jury before Mr. Justice Aurelio in New York County Supreme Court in April 1966, the action was dismissed at the close of plaintiff's case. The dismissal was affirmed unanimously and without opinion in the Appellate Division and leave to appeal was denied in the Appellate Division and in the Court of Appeals. Thereafter, in pursuit of an asserted belief that in the trial professed signatures of John Bower that he had testified were not in fact his were truly his signatures and that certain notarized papers were falsely notarized, plaintiff had taken much action in the District Attorney's office, in the office of the Secretary of State, and perhaps, elsewhere, that Bower and his firm, was harassing beyond any possible privilege of the occasion. They sued, in the action in which the injunction was made, for redress against the alleged harassment and to enjoin it.

Petitioner's significant claims here are that he has no viable remedy against the temporary injunction because he cannot show that he timely opposed it, and that in consequence of the injunction he has to this date been prevented from presenting his motion for a new trial in the case against the securities firm and Bower on the ground that the discovery of the allegedly fraudulent practices came only after the dismissal, so that there has never been a judicial evaluation of his evidence on that point.

The Petitioner asks this Court (1) whether he has not a constitutional right to complain to the Federal Reserve Board of Governors of Violations of Regulations U and T by the securities firm and Bower without being in contempt of the preliminary injunction, (2) whether he cannot sue in this Court for violation of his civil rights under 18 U.S.C. ¶ 241 (see 42 U.S.C. ¶¶ 1983, 1985 (27), and (3) for a declaration that the preliminary injunction is ineffective for constitutional reasons.

Injunctions against vexatious litigants are not unknown in the federal courts (American Optometirc Ass'n v Ritholz, 7th Cir 1939, 101 F.2d 883), and the power to make such an injunctive order and to enforce it by contempt procedures has been sustained. Scott v Hunt Oil Co, 5th Cir. 1968, 398 F d 810. The Court of primary and plenary jurisdiction is the Court to determine whether a basis exists for granting such an injunction, and the terms of any appropriate injunctive order. Cf. Walson & Co. Inc. v Klein, N.Y. Co. 1964, 44 Misc. 2d 607, 254 N.Y.S. 2d 734, aff'd 1st Dept. 1965 24 App. Div. 2d 559, 260 N.Y.S. 2d 831; Clinton v United States 9th Co 1961, 2 97 F 2d 899, Meredith v. John Deere Plow Co. 8th Cir 1958, 261 Fed. 121.

Since the injunction complained of is not void on its face, questions of its breadth and interpretation must be taken up with the Supreme Court, Queens County, in the first instnace and that is true of the present question about presenting a complaint to the Federal Reserve Board. Cf. Klein v. Bower 2d Cir 1970, 421 Fed 338.

A jurisdiction in extraordinary cases does exist in the federal court to grant relief against the maintenance or pursuit of state court litigation under 42 U.S.C. ¶ 1983, 1985 (2) Cf. Bottow v Lindsley, 10th Cir. 1948, 170 Fed 705 707 Dinwiddle v. Brown 5th Cir 1956, 230 Fed 465, 469, Sarelas v Sheehan, 7th Cir 1963, 326 Fed 490, 491-492. But such a jurisdiction is not to be exercised against a court as such (Zuckerman v Appellate Division, 2d Cir. 1970, 421 Fed 625), nor, indeed can any such be against a judge for acts he performs in the discharge of his office. Pierson v. Ray, 1967, 386 U.S. 547. If, therefore, a properly framed complaint that was not frivolous and which presented a substantial federal question could be in good faith presented to the federal court as against defendants suable under 42 U.S.C. ¶¶ 1983, 1985 complaining of the injunction and its effect on rights that can invoke constitutional protection, such a filing could not compatibly with the purpose of 42 U.S.C. ¶¶ 1983, 1985 be treated as automatically a contempt of the State court injunction; such a filing could, in the case of a good faith appeal on substantial grounds for redress against what was believed to be a deprivation of civil rights, be analogized to the filing of an appeal. That does not mean, however, that such a federal filing, if properly found to be a part of a course of vexatious litigation the continuance of which had been enjoined by the State Court, could not ultimately be found to be a direct contempt of the State court injunction.

It appears, then, that the only proper order to make at this time in the present proceeding in which, strictly, only the state court has been joined, or attempted to be joined, in an order dismissing the matter without prejudice to a proper suit under 42 U.S.C. ¶¶ 1983, 1985 (2) if any such suit can be framed.

It is accordingly ORDERED, that Clerk enter judgment dismissing the petition without prejudice to the filing of an action properly framed under the Civil Rights Act.

Brooklyn, New York
August 25, 1970

John F. Dooling Jr.
U. S. D. J.

APPENDIX E

Order Granting Preliminary Injunction

At a Special Term, Part I thereof, of the Supreme Court of the State of New York held in and for the County of New York at the Court House located at 60 Centre Street, New York, New York on the 10 day of July, 1968.

Present: HON. FRANCIS T. MURPHY, JR.,
Justice.

(SAME TITLE)

Plaintiffs having duly moved this Court for an Order, granting a preliminary injunction enjoining the defendants, their agents, servants, employees and attorneys, during the pendency of this action, from interfering directly or indirectly with plaintiffs and/or their business and/or profession, and from interfering with plaintiffs dividually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly and directing that the defendants jointly and severally cease and desist from bringing further charges, accusations, further claims, and from instigating and/or bringing prosecutions and public inquiry by public or quasi-public officials against the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly and from making complaints to any public, quasi-public or provate agencies against the plaintiffs indivdually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families

directly or indirectly and/or through representatives or attorneys, and from issuing or causing to be issued summonses and/or complaints and/or any civil process against the plaintiffs dividually and severally or as partners, their employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly including but not limited to any motion in any action directed towards the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly for an order staying any civil proceeding now pending against the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly, and forbidding the defendants jointly and severally from instigating any civil process against the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly and further enjoining the defendants jointly and severally from instigating others, and their agents, servants and employees, in making any contacts with the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly, and enjoining the defendants jointly and severally from causing or instigating other person or persons from otherwise harassing the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly; and the said motion having regularly come on to be heard on the 31st day of May, 1968.

Now, on reading and filing the Notice of Motion dated May 7, 1968, the affidavit of John J. Bower sworn to the 7th day of May, 1968, the affidavit of William F. O'Connor sworn to the 7th day of May, 1968, the affidavit of Mary Anna Macukas sworn to the 7th day of May 1968, the affidavit of Carolyn Schiff sworn to the 7th day of May, 1968, the supplemental

affidavit of John J. Bower sworn to the 17th day of May, 1968, the supplemental affidavit of William F. O'Connor sworn to the 28th day of May, 1968, the supplemental affidavit of Carolyn Schiff sworn to the 28th day of May, 1968, the summons dated the 25th day of March, 1968 and verified complaint, sworn to the 5th day of April, 1968, together with proff of due service thereof upon Benjamin Isaacs, Defendant Pro Se, proff of due service thereof upon Benjamin J. Taruskin, Esq., substituted attorney for Defendant Pro Se, Benjamin Isaacs, proof of due service thereof upon Anthony J. De Marco, Jr., Esq., attorney for defendant, Albert B. Lewis and proof of due service thereof upon defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer, all in support of said motion and the notice of cross-motion of defendant, Benjamin Isaacs dated the 21st day of May, 1968, the affidavit of defendant, Benjamin Isaacs, sworn to the 21st day of May, 1968, the reply affidavit of defendant, Benjamin Isaacs, sworn to the 27th day of May, 1968 in opposition to the motion and in support of the cross-motion and the notice of cross-motion of defendant, Albert B. Lewis, undated, the affirmation of David S. Worgan dated the 16th day of May, 1968, the affirmation of defendant, Albert B. Lewis, dated the 17th day of May 1968, the affirmation of Robert W. Nishman, Esq., dated the 24th day of May, 1968, the reply affirmation of defendant, Albert B. Lewis, dated the 28th day of May, 1968 in opposition to the motion and in support of the cross-motion; and upon a hearing on the 31st day of May, 1968, and Bower, O'Connor Taylor, Esqs., attorneys for the plaintiffs, William F. O'Connor, Esq., of counsel, appearing in support of said motion and in opposition to the cross-motions; and Benjamin J. Taruskin, Esq., appearing on behalf of defendant, Benjamin Isaacs and Anthony J. De Marco, Jr., Esq., appearing on behalf of defendant, Albert B. Lewis, and defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer not appearing in opposition to the within motion;

and due deliberation having been had, and it appearing that a cause of action exists in favor of the plaintiffs and against the defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer for a permanent injunction enjoining and staying them from interferring directly or indirectly with plaintiffs and/or their business and/or profession, and from interfering directly or indirectly with the plaintiffs indivdually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families and directing that the defendants jointly and severally cease and desist from bringing further charges, accusations, further claims, instigating and/or bringing prosecutions and public inquiry by public or quasi-public officials against the plaintiffs indivdually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly, from making complaints to any public, quasi-public or private agencies against the plaintiffs, indivdually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly and/or through representatives or attorneys, and from issuing summonses and/or complaints and any civil process against the plaintiffs indivdually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly, including but not limited to any motion in any action directed towards the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly and for a stay of any civil proceeding new pending against the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly and/or forbidding the defendants jointly and severally from instigating and/or issuing or causing to be issued any civil process against the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or

indirectly and further enjoining the defendants jointly and severally from instigating others and their agents, servants and employees from making any and all contacts with the plaintiffs, indivdually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents servants and families directly or indirectly and enjoining the defendants jointly and severally from causing and instigating other person and persons from otherwise harassing the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly; and it appearing that the plaintiffs are entitled to a preliminary injunction against defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer on the grounds that there has been a sufficient showing that the defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer and threatening to or about to do, or are doing or procuring or endeavoring to have done, actions in violation of the plaintiffs' rights respecting the subject of the action and tending to render any judgment herein ineffectual; and further, it appearing that there has been sufficient showing that the defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer, if permitted to commit and/or continue the acts complained of during the pendency of this action, would produce injury to the plaintiffs, and it further appearing that as to the request for a temporary injunction to be directed against defendants, Benjamin Isaacs and Albert B. Lewis, there are present substantial questions as to said defendants' commission of the acts charged, and as to whether or not they were occupying privileged or quasi-privileged positions at that time;

Now, on motion of Bower, O'Connor & Taylor Esq., attorneys for the plaintiffs, it is

ORDERED that the motion for a preliminary injunction is granted as against defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer, upon condition that the plaintiffs file an

undertaking in the sum of One Thousand ($1,000.00) Dollars, conditioned that the plaintiffs, if it is finally determined that they were not entitled to an injunction, will pay to the defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer, all damages and costs which may be sustained by reason of the injunction and such motion is denied as to the defendants Isaacs and Lewis, and it is further

ORDERED that Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer, defendants herein, their agents, servants and employees be and they are hereby enjoined during the pendency of this action from interfering directly or indirectly with plaintiffs and/or their business and/or profession, and from interfering with the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families and directly or indirectly; and the said defendants jointly and severally are ordered to cease and desist, and are enjoined from bringing further charges, accusations, further claims, instigating and/or bringing prosecutions and public inquiry by public or quasi-public officials or private agencies against the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly, from making complaints to any public, quasi-public or private agencies against the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly and/or through representatives or attorneys, and from issuing or bringing summonses and/or complaints including counterclaims in the within action and from issuing any civil process against the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly, including but not limited to any motion in any action directed towards the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees,

agents, servants and families directly or indirectly; and it is further

ORDERED that any and all civil proceedings now pending against the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly be and they hereby are stayed; and said defendants jointly and severally be and they hereby are enjoined from instigating and/or issuing or causing to be issued any civil process against the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly; and said defendants jointly and severally be and they hereby are enjoined themselves and they are enjoined from instigating others and their agents, servants and employees from making any and all contacts with the plaintiffs individually or severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families, directly or indirectly; and said defendants jointly and severally be and they hereby are enjoined themselves and they are enjoined from causing or instigating any other person or persons otherwise to harass the plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly; and said defendants jointly and severally be and they hereby are enjoined from harassing the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly by the use of public, quasi-public and private agencies or by making and instigating complaints against the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly; and said defendants jointly and severally be and they hereby are enjoined themselves and they are enjoined from instigating or directing any other persons, their agents, servants and employees directly or indirectly to make

contact with the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families and are enjoined from contacting persons in regard to their family status, making inquiries about them, their children, their habits, physical appearance, daily routine from acquaintances, neighbors, friends of said plaintiffs, individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly and are enjoined themselves and they are enjoined from instigating and directing any other persons, their agents, servants and employees directly or indirectly to make representations to lead people to believe that the plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families are under inquiry by private or public agencies for any possible misconduct, and said defendants, Ernest Klein, Nathan N. Schorr and Lajos Laufer, are directed to cease and desist from, and are enjoined from, uttering or causing to be uttered, orally or in writing, and from communicating to any persons, remarks and/or statements in reference to plaintiffs individually and severally or as partners, their employees, former employees, agents, servants and families directly or indirectly impugning their honesty or integrity in their individual lives of in the conduct of their professional practice,

And the defendants, Benjamin Isaacs and Albert B. Lewis having cross-moved this Court for an order granting summary judgement to said defendants and said cross-motions having regularly come on to be heard on the 31st day of May 1968,

Now, on reading and filing the notice of cross-motion of defendant, Benjamin Isaacs, dated May 21, 1968, the affidavit of defendant, Benjamin Isaacs, sworn to the 21st day of May, 1968, the reply affidavit of defendant, Benjamin Isaacs, sworn

to the 27th day of May, 1968 and on proff of due service thereof and upon the summons dated March 25, 1968 and the verified complaint sworn to the 5th day of April, 1968, all in support of the cross-motion, and on reading and filing the notice of cross-motion of defendant, Albert B. Lewis, undated, the affirmation of David S. Worgan, Esq., dated the 16th day of May, 1968, the affirmation of Albert B. Lewis, dated the 17th day of May, 1968, the affirmation of Robert W. Nishman, Esq., dated the 24th day of May, 1968 and the reply affirmation of Albert B. Lewis dated the 28th day of May, 1968, all in support of the cross-motion and on proof of due service thereof, and on reading and filing the affidavit of John J. Bower, sworn to the 24th day of May, 1968 in opposition to defendant, Benjamin Isaacs' cross-motion and on reading and filing the affidavit of John J. Bower sworn to the 24th day of May, 1968, in opposition to defendant, Albert B. Lewis' cross-motion and upon the hearing held on the 31st day of May, 1968, and Benjamin J. Taruskin, Esq., appearing for defendant Benjamin Isaacs, in support of said cross-motion for summary judgment and Anthony J. De Marco, Jr., Esq., appearing for defendant, Albert B. Lewis, in support of said cross-motion for summary judgment and Bower, O'Connor & Taylor, Esqs., by William F. O'Connor, Esq., attorneys for plaintiffs appearing in opposition thereto, and due deliberation having been had, it is

ORDERED that the cross-motion by defendant, Benjamin Isaacs and the cross-motion by defendant, Albert B. Lewis for summary judgment be and the same hereby are denied without prejudice to a renewal of the cross-motions by defendants, Benjamin Isaacs and Albert B. Lewis after plaintiffs' completion of examinations before trial of defendants.

Enter:

F. T. M.,
J. S. C.

Filed
Jul. 10, 1968
Co. Clerk's Office New York

BRIEF FOR THE RESPONDENTS IN OPPOSITION

Supreme Court, U.S.
FILED
OCT 1 1971
E. ROBERT SEAVER, CLERK

IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1971

70-168

Nos. ~~71-183~~, 71-384

ERNEST KLEIN,

Petitioner,

vs.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK, JOHN J. BOWER and BOWER, O'CONNOR AND TAYLOR,

Respondents.

RESPONDENT'S OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

BOWER & GARDNER
Attorneys for Respondents, John J. Bower and Bower, O'Connor and Taylor,
415 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.
PL-1-2500

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Cases Cited

Klein v. Bower, et al., C. C. H. Fed. Sec. L. Rep. page 32,362 N. 7 (S. D. N. Y., 1967) 6

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IN THE

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vs.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK, JOHN J. BOWER and BOWER, O'CONNOR AND TAYLOR,

Respondents.

RESPONDENT'S BRIEF IN OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

Statement of Facts

The Parties to the Litigation

The appellant, Ernest Klein, is a perennial litigant who has been engaged for many years in securities transactions, usually followed by lengthy and often multiple liti-

gation.* Respondents are attorneys engaged in the practice of law in the State of New York as a partnership. The plaintiffs-respondents successfully defended an action brought by the appellant in Supreme Court, New York County, arising out of a transaction in October, 1958, wherein the appellant pledged securities, consisting mainly of convertible bonds, with a factor, Securities Clearance Corporation, to secure loans made to him on a three percent margin.

The action went to trial on April 18, 1966, before Mr. Justice Thomas A. Aurelio and a jury. After the plaintiff had taken over two weeks to put in his case, the court on April 29, 1966, granted the defendants' motion for judgment.

A final judgment was entered against the appellant on June 23, 1966, and that judgment was subsequently affirmed unanimously by the Appellate Division, First Department (27 A. D. 2d 801, 1967). Plaintiff's motion for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals was denied by the Appellate Division and subsequently by the Court of Appeals (20 N. Y. 2d 645).

Appellant's Activities Resulting in the Present Litigation and Injunction

1. Following the loss of appellant's suit against Securities Clearance, *et al.*, which was defended in part by respondents, the appellant made a complaint to the District Attorney of New York County accusing respondent Bower of committing perjury and forgery. As a result of that complaint an investigation was undertaken against

* See E. P. G. *Klein* v. *Spear, Leeds & Kellogg*, C. C. H. Fed. Sec. L. Rep. Page 92,454 (S. D. N. Y., 1969) Current Ed.

respondents by the District Attorney of New York County. That complaint was held to be unfounded.

2. On or about May 12, 1966, the appellant obtained a summons from the Criminal Court, New York County, charging respondent Bower with the crime of perjury, necessitating an appearance in Criminal Court on behalf of the appellant on two occasions. That complaint was dismissed by the court as unfounded.

3. In late May or early June, 1966, the appellant Klein made a complaint against Bower, O'Connor and several secretaries in the firm of Bower, O'Connor & Taylor charging all with committing crimes in their actions as Notaries, and of abusing their Notarial office, and of being guilty of moral turpitude. An investigation was conducted based upon the complaint of the appellant Klein, by the Secretary of State, which claims by the appellant Klein proved to be unfounded.

4. In early June, 1966, appellant Klein made a complaint to the District Attorney of Queens County against Bower and O'Connor alleging forged signatures, and abuses of Notarial offices. That complaint resulted in the respondents being subpoenaed to the office of the District Attorney of Queens County and that charge was found to be unfounded.

5. On or about June 28, 1967, the appellant Klein commenced an action in Supreme Court, Kings County charging Boyer with conspiracy to commit libel and O'Connor with committing libel in papers filed in the original action tried before Mr. Justice Aurelio. Respondents' motion to dismiss the complaint was eventually granted. That dismissal was sustained by the Appellate Division, Second Department.

6. In January of 1968 the appellant Klein acting with others brought charges against Bower, O'Connor and

several female employees in the firm of Bower, O'Connor & Taylor, to the Secretary of State alleging that they were persons of moral turpitude, who abused their Notarial offices and forged each other's signatures and otherwise committed violations of laws. These charges resulted in a full hearing during which appellant Klein failed to produce any evidence against either Bower or the two female Notaries in the law firm and after a complete hearing which included a submission of handwriting samples to the State Police Laboratory the appellant's claims were found by the hearing officer to be unfounded, and that there were no violations of law.

7. Commencing in January, 1968, the appellant Klein with the assistance of others went to the homes of some of the employees of the respondent law firm and contacted present and ex-employees in an attempt to coerce, frighten and terrorize them into giving untrue statements. In addition appellant Klein in concert with others went to employees' neighbors and made numerous inquiries and derogatory statements concerning them.

8. To defend the above unfounded claims and complaints, respondents were required to make numerous court appearances thus depriving them of making a livelihood in their professional calling.

The Injunction *Pendente Lite*

9. Since the respondents' reputation and livelihood were seriously damaged by having to respond in work effort and time to the many unfounded claims instituted by the appellant, an injunction *pendente lite* was sought and granted by Mr. Justice Francis T. Murphy.

10. The motion for the injunction *pendente lite* was served upon the appellant on the 7th of May, 1968, made returnable on the 27th of May, 1968. Thus an extraor-

dinary amount of time for the motion was given to the appellant to avail himself of an opportunity to be prepared. On the 27th day of May the case was called and the appellant appeared in person and told the court that the matter was so complicated he needed six months to read it and find a lawyer. At that moment he had several law firms representing him in some of his numerous lawsuits including his own son who is a lawyer.

11. In the interim, between the time that the motion for an injunction *pendente lite* was first called on the 27th of May and the day that it was ultimately heard, peremptorily against the appellant on the 31st, the appellant had caused to be issued two new summonses without complaints as against the respondents in Supreme Court, Kings County.

12. Thus, on the 31st day of May, 1968, Mr. Justice Murphy was faced not only with the prior activity of the appellant but similarly faced with the continual activity on the part of the appellant to precipitate numerous lawsuits as against the respondents in detriment of their standing in the legal community and in an attempt to deprive them of earning a livelihood by engaging them in multivarious lawsuits of a like nature as prior lawsuits, all of which had been dismissed or upon a full hearing determined to have been unfounded in fact; several of which were instituted during the pendency of the motion for injunctive relief *pendente lite*.

13. Similarly Judge Murphy was faced with the fact of a plaintiff who had taken great liberty with the judicial process and who was not a limping, inarticulate plaintiff but one of extensive experience in litigation whose argument was clear in expression and vigorously bitter in denunciations as well as inexhaustible in length.

14. Neither on the first day of the calling of the motion, namely the 27th of May, 1968, nor the 29th, nor the 31st

did the appellant Klein submit any papers in opposition to the motion and at no time has he asserted a meritorious defense to the action.

15. The lower court was not faced with a novice in litigation but one who engaged in at least thirty lawsuits, utilizing at lease ten different lawyers and at times terminating their services, to proceed *pro se* if it suits his purpose in those cases or the present one.

16. Pending the signing of the order of injunction *pendente lite* granted by Mr. Justice Murphy, appellant commenced a suit in the Federal Court against the respondents herein and numerous banks as well as secretaries and employees of the respondents' firm. A motion to dismiss that action was granted by Judge Tyler in *Klein* v. *Bower, et al.*, C. C. H. Fed. Sec. L. Rep. page 32,362 N. 7 (S. D. N. Y. 1967).

17. The order of injunction was signed on the 10th of July, 1968, and served upon Klein on August 23, 1968.

18. By notice dated the 13th day of August, 1968, the appellant saw fit to appeal from the injunction. That appeal was dismissed by order of the Appellate Division, First Department, dated the 17th of October, 1968.

19. Subsequent to the injunction *pendente lite* and while it was in full force and effect, in addition to instituting actions against the respondents in the State Courts the appellant Klein brought an action against the Secretary of State to reinstate a hearing as against the respondents and secretaries in their office reasserting the prior claim of perjury and forgery.

20. Appellant Klein's action against the Secretary of State to reconsider reopening the hearing as against respondents Bower and O'Connor as well as against several of the employees in the respondent law firm, was viola-

tive of the decretal paragraphs of the order of injunction, pages 6, 7 and 8.

21. In addition appellant Klein instituted a motion in Supreme Court, New York County, for a vacatur of the prior dismissal of the initial action of *Klein* v. *Securties Clearance, et al.,* which similarly was violative of the injunction.

22. By motion dated January 8, 1969, and affidavit sworn to the 7th day of January, 1969, the appellant Klein instituted a notice of re-argument in the Appellate Division, Second Department, in the action of *Klein* v. *O'Connor, et al.* (the said action being one by the appellant Klein as plaintiff against O'Connor and the law firm of Bower, O'Connor & Taylor as well as certain employees within the law firm, for alleged libel, slander and conspiracy to commit same), which action had previously been dismissed and the dismissal upheld by the Apellate Division, Second Department.

23. In addition the appellant Klein, on or about January 8, 1969, submitted an order to show cause *ex parte* before Mr. Justice Greenfield to have certain files previously under seal, opened for examination, the said file being the same action of *Klein* v. *Securities Clearance, et al.*

24. Based upon these activities on the part of the appellant Klein, violative of the injunction *pendente lite,* which was then in full force and effect, the Supreme Court, New York County, by Hon. Samuel M. Gold, entered an order on the 21st day of May, 1969, after full hearing, citing the appellant Klein in contempt of the order of the Supreme Court.

25. In abundant support of the necessity for the injunction being initially issued, your deponent respectfully attaches hereto as Appendix A the affidavit of John J.

Bower, duly verified the 7th day of May, 1968, interposed in support of the motion for injunctive relief *pendente lite.*

26. Supportive of the proposition that Klein was well aware that the injunction did not preclude his taking legal steps are the procedural steps that he, in fact, did utilize.

27. Appellant thereafter instituted yet another Federal action, seeking to once again relitigate the time worn theme—this action was dismissed by Judge Bonsal, Appendix B.

28. By order dated the 25th day of March, 1971, Judge Bonsal dismissed the complaint in this action as against all defendants. Attached hereto and respectfully made a part hereof is a copy of said order of dismissal as Appendix B.

29. Prior to the order of Judge Bonsal, which was dispositive of the entire matter, the plaintiff sought preliminary relief by Order to Show Cause seeking essentially the same relief sought in the appeal herein. Attached hereto and respectfully made a part hereof as Appendix — is a copy of the decision of the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, dismissing that Petition, dated August 25, 1970, Appendix C.

30. Subsequent thereto and still prior to the ultimate dismissal by Judge Bonsal, the plaintiff sought additional preliminary relief which was denied by Judge Wyatt by his Order dated January 11, 1971, a copy of which is attached hereto and respectfully made a part hereof as Appendix D. Petitioner seeks to likewise perpetuate that appeal, which was for all intents and purposes superseded by the ultimate dismissal.

31. Petitioner herein seeks to raise the time worn argument that he is denied the right to counsel on the mo-

tions and appeals herein, which is belied by the activity engaged in by him.

32. It is submitted that there was a full hearing in which Petitioner's position was clearly set forth to the Court in the initial two motions for preliminary relief, as evidenced by the decisions of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, as contained in their decisions, Appendices C and D attached hereto.

33. Judge Wyatt's decision of January 11, 1971, in denying relief designated as (b) on the basis that such relief was unnecessary "since so far as this Court is concerned, plaintiff may appear by counsel if he so desires", shows that the perpetual claim of lack of legal counsel is unfounded.

34. The fact that the plaintiff made the motion and hearings were held thereon renders the suggested inability to obtain counsel as being a spurious argument at best.

35. Clearly, as set forth in Judge Bonsal's decision, Petitioner Klein had legal counsel, one Robert A. Katz, who, through the fiction of not formally appearing in behalf of the plaintiff, was nonetheless fully heard at Petitioner's request at the oral argument, at which time Petitioner was himself present.

36. It was only after full oral argument and due deliberation thereon that Judge Bonsal properly dismissed the complaint herein, since the purported new complaint was nothing more than a regurgitation of a complaint which had previously been reasserted in the Federal Court under Docket Number 68 Civ. 2687, being itself an attempted relitigation of a State Court action dismissed in the State Court and which dismissal was affirmed all the way up to the Court of Appeals.

37. The initial Federal Court action (68 Civ. 2687) dismissed in the Southern District of New York was in the usual course appealed to this Honorable Court, resulting in the same multitudinous requests for additional time, as is being sought in the instant action. This Honorable Court ultimately issued its mandate when it became obvious that the Petitioner therein was engaging in a repetition of his prior activity of attempting to engulf the defendants herein in unnecessary expenditure of time and effort to respond to a torrent of perpetual requests for adjournments and extended time.

38. The Petitioner here once again seeks to intrude upon the defendants' practice of their profession by engaging them in responding to unnecessary appeals.

Similarly, as Judge Wyatt's order clearly enunciates, the Petitioner Klein had a right to counsel as explicitly set forth in (B) of his decision of the 11th of January, 1971. So, too, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in its decision (Appendix E) does not limit the petitioner's right to counsel. Rather, quite appropriately and consistent with the prior order of Judge Bonsal, it merely does not intrude upon the injunction of the State Court.

ARGUMENT

By the very language of the District Court's orders; (Appendix C), Wyatt, J. (Appendix D) as well as the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, Appendix E, the Petitioner in no way was deprived of a right to counsel and in fact, was apprised that as far as those Courts were concerned, the Petitioner may proceed by counsel if he so desires.

Thus, the alleged denial of personal counsel is totally without merit; and no Federal question is raised to warrant certiorari being granted.

CONCLUSION

Certiorari should be denied on both petitions, numbered 71-384 and 1706.

Respectfully submitted,

BOWER & GARDNER
Attorneys for Respondents, John J. Bower and Bower, O'Connor and Taylor,
Office & P. O. Address
415 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10017

JOHN GARDNER, ESQ.
Of Counsel

[APPENDICES FOLLOW]

APPENDIX A

Affidavit in Support of Motion

SUPREME COURT
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF NEW YORK

Index No. 5810/1968

JOHN J. BOWER and BOWER, O'CONNOR & TAYLOR,
a partnership,

Plaintiffs,

—against—

ERNEST KLEIN, NATHAN N. SCHOER, BENJAMIN ISAACS,
ALBERT B. LEWIS and LAJOS LAUFER,

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK }
COUNTY OF NEW YORK } ss.:

JOHN J. BOWER, being duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. I am a partner in Bower, O'Connor & Taylor, attorneys practicing at 350 Fifth Avenue.

2. I make this affidavit on my personal knowledge and upon such information and belief as is revealed by the investigation contained in my file.

Appendix A

3. This is an action in which I as an individual plaintiff and my firm brought an action against the defendants for their willful tortious conduct, seeking both damages and an injunction permanently restraining the defendants from engaging further in their course of harassment and interference with plaintiffs, professional and private activities.

4. This is a case of first impression in New York as my research has failed to reveal a similar course of conduct on behalf of any defendants in this State, or, for that matter, in any other State. The Complaint which is hereto annexed and is referred to from time to time and which I request to be deemed a part of the moving papers contains twenty causes of action. For the sake of brevity, these can be summarized as follows: The first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth, ninth and tenth causes of action are for the traditional tort of malicious, willful falsehood with intent to harm the plaintiff; the seventh cause of action is for slander; the eleventh and twelfth causes of action are for malicious prosecution; the thirteenth cause of action is for a continuing repetitive and malicious course of conduct to damage plaintiffs willfully by interfering with and disrupting the professional activities and by interfering with plaintiffs' mental, emotional, financial and professional well-being by engaging in a series of incessant accusations, false and injurious statements and criminal charges and civil proceedings for the purpose of damaging the plaintiff; the fourteenth cause of action is for special damages necessarily incurred; the fifteenth cause of action is for continued willful harassment of the plaintiff law firm; the sixteenth cause of action is against defendant Isaacs, who participated with and in fact instigated

the bringing of false charges against the plaintiffs; the seventeenth cause of action is against defendant Lewis who instigated, aided and abetted and participated with defendant Klein in making false, malicious and unwarranted charges of criminal nature against the plaintiff; the eighteenth cause of action is against defendant Schorr for falsely and maliciously and recklessly issuing false statements in the nature of a handwriting expert's opinion against the plaintiff either through willful maliciousness or through gross incompetence; the nineteenth cause of action is for an injunction and the twentieth cause of action is for punitive and exemplary damages against the defendants.

5. This action was commenced by service upon defendant Klein of the summons on March 29, 1968. He appeared on April 5, 1968 and the complaint was served upon him on April 24, 1968. Defendant Isaacs was served on March 28, 1968 and he appeared on April 8, 1968. The complaint was served upon him on April 24, 1968. The summons was served on defendant Schorr on March 26, 1968 and he is in persistent default. The summons was served on defendant Lewis on March 26, 1968 and he appeared on April 30, 1968. The complaint was served upon him on April 30, 1968. Defendant Laufer was served by Section 308 Subdivision 3 CPLR and the summons with affidavit of service was duly filed in the Clerk's office on April 8, 1968 but there has been no appearance by defendant Laufer as yet.

6. To summarize the matter for the Court in the briefest possible fashion the following are the facts from which this law suit arose:

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(a) I had been named a defendant as I had been the officer of a corporation in 1958 without actually participating in its day-to-day affairs, in which law suit Ernest Klein, one of the defendants in 1961 sued Securities Clearance Corp. and a number of banks and private individuals who were stockholders or officers of the aforesaid corporation. This action was instituted by defendant Klein for transactions which occurred in 1958, in the year 1961 and bore New York Supreme Court, New York County Index Number 18651/61. In that law suit my firm, Bower, O'Connor & Taylor, acted as my defense counsel. The action came to trial in April of 1966 before Mr. Justice Aurelio and after a lengthy presentation of the plaintiff's case lasting almost two weeks the Court dismissed the complaint as against all the defendants at the end of plaintiff's case. This dismissal was affirmed unnaimously by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court and leave to appeal to the Court of Appeals was denied.

(b) The loss of this law suit prompted defendant Klein and subsequently prompted his co-defendants to engage on a calculated campaign of false charges, malicious prosecution, willful malicious falsehoods, slander and baseless litigation with harassment and molestation without equal in my experience and without any precedent for such conduct in the annals of the jurisprudence of this State. The chronology of his acts and of the co-defendants' participation is set forth in the complaint but for the purpose of supplying adequate moving papers the following chronological sequence should be stated:

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(1) Shortly after the aforesaid law suit was dismissed without any factual basis defendant Klein on information and belief made a complaint to the District Attorney of New York County falsely accusing me of having committed perjury, forgery, grand larceny and other unspecified crimes. I was informed by defendant Klein of the making of such complaint and that an investigation was being undertaken against me by the District Attorney.

(2) On or about May 12, 1966 defendant Klein obtained a summons from the Criminal Court, New York County charging me with the crime of perjury, came to our office shortly thereafter with a Police Officer and in the presence of our office staff served the summons upon me. This criminal charge was completely false and malicious and after I appeared in the Criminal Court on two occasions the charge was dismissed.

(3) That sometime in late May or early June, 1966 defendant Klein made a complaint against me, one of my partners, William F. O'Connor and several secretaries in our office, Mary Anna Macukas and Carolyn Schiff charging us with committing crimes in our actions as Notaries and of abusing our notarial office and of being guilty of moral turpitude. This charge too was false and maliciously made. An investigation was conducted by the Secretary of State and I as well as my partner and office help was required to respond to these charges, which we did.

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(4) That similarly, sometime in early June, 1966 defendant Klein made a complaint to the District Attorney of Queens County against me, my partner, William F. O'Connor and the aforesaid two young ladies in our office complaining that we forged signatures, abused our offices as Notaries and committed other crimes. We were subpoenaed to the office of the District Attorney of Queens County, had to participate in the role of an accused in an investigation and did so. The charge was maliciously and falsely made.

(5) That on or about June 30, 1966 defendant Klein made a motion for an order in the civil action of *Klein* v. *Securities Clearance Corp.*, as aforesaid, to compel certain evidentiary material to be deposited with the Clerk inferring that I or members of my firm were about to commit additional felonies and steal such exhibits. This was completely false and maliciously charged.

(6) That on or about June 28, 1967 defendant Klein commenced an action in the Supreme Court, Kings County charging me with "conspiracy to commit libel" and charging my aforesaid partner, William F. O'Connor, with committing libel in papers filed in the original action tried before Judge Aurelio. This action was brought without any basis of fact and for malicious and tortious purposes and our motion to dismiss the complaint was eventually granted.

(7) That on or about January 16, 1968 while the aforesaid motion was argued in Supreme Court, Kings County defendant Klein in the

presence of Justice Charles J. Beckinella and a number of attorneys with whom I have had honorable business dealings for a number of years, uttered words which were totally outside the scope of the issues in that law suit as well as the facts encompassed in the motion to dismiss and called me a perjurer, a forger, a liar and a thief.

(8) That sometime in the year 1966 and in the year 1967 the defendant Klein procured, upon information and belief, opinions from a self-styled handwriting expert, defendant, Nathan N. Schorr, who is in fact a high school history teacher and a Rabbi (as is defendant Klein) which opinions were false, untrue, maliciously and wantonly made and/or made with a great degree of unreliability and incompetence, and armed with said false and fraudulent reports from co-defendant Schorr made a complaint to the District Attorney of New York County charging me with having committed perjury concerning certain exhibits which were used in the trial of *Klein* v. *Securities Clearance Corp.* The District Attorney thereupon notified me that a complaint was made and an investigation was underway. An investigation was in fact made and laboratory analyses failed to establish that I was guilty of any crime at all. This did not satisfy defendant Klein who thereupon with the aid of defendant Lewis, a State Senator from Brooklyn brought additional charges, upon information and belief, against me both at the office of the District Attorney of New York County and at the Department of State of the State of New

York. Defendant Lewis without knowing any factual basis, without making an investigation, in concert with defendant Klein brought additional false charges against me in the nature of perjury and forgery, upon information and belief, caused an additional investigation to be made by the District Attorney and by the Secretary of State of the State of New York. Insofar as these charges at the office of the District Attorney were concerned, I have been advised by the office of the District Attorney that the laboratory examinations established my complete innocence of any charge made against me.

(9) At the same time on January 5, 1968 defendant Klein acting with defendant Isaacs, upon his advice, and with his instigation and participation brought additional false and malicious charges against me, my partner, William F. O'Connor and the aforesaid two female employees of our firm to the Secretary of State, alleging that we were persons of moral turpitude, abused our notarial offices, forged each other's signatures and otherwise committed violations of law and requested that action be taken against us in the revocation of our notarial office. These charges resulted in two hearings during which defendants Klein and Isaacs failed to present one iota of evidence against me or against the two female Notaries, and at one of these hearings defendant Schorr testified that Mr. O'Connor's signatures were not his. The hearing officer thereupon submitted the handwriting samples to the State Police Laboratory whose ex-

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pert, Lieutenant McCarthy completely refuted and repudiated this false charge against Mr. O'Connor as well.

(10) That on or about March 25, 1968 defendant Klein brought on a motion in the aforesaid case of *Klein* v. *Securities Clearance Corp., et al.* again requesting the deposit of exhibits and again inferring that I was either a perjurer or a forger and that if I was not then I knew who committed perjury and forgery and that I or my office associates were about to seal the exhibits.

(11) That upon information and belief during the past five months, commencing with January of 1968 defendant Klein and co-defendant Laufer with the assistance of others, presently as yet unknown engaged in a further course of harassment and molestation of our employees, ex-employees and families, went to the homes of some of them, attempted to coerce them, frighten and terrorize them into giving them statements, into signing their names, as well as my name and my partners' names, made annoying and threatening phone calls, went to our employees' neighbors and made numerous inquiries, made derogatory statements concerning them, called our homes under false pretenses, went to Police Stations requesting the Policemen's assistance in making a "citizen's arrest" for false and nonexistent crimes, resulting in constant harassment, molestation and amounting to a calculated conduct to deprive me, my partners, my firm, our employees and families from enjoying peace of mind.

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7. All of the charges brought by the defendants me were totally false, were brought with knowledge of their falsity, willfully and maliciously, and were calculated as wrongful acts performed solely for the purpose of harassing, molesting and injuring me as well as my firm and its employees, had no basis in fact other than the desire to "get even" for an imagined wrong and were brought for the purpose of engaging us in continued litigation, in the defense of charges constantly made and renewed, from which no surcease has been had. The complaint amply states these acts and their consequences as well as the damages resulting therefrom. Nor are these acts over as yet, as defendant Klein and his cohorts, upon information and belief are continuing their harassment as appears from the papers hereto annexed.

8. Defendant Klein is no novice to litigation. He is an experienced litigant, one who has participated in at least thirty law suits involving stockbrokers, banks, factors and lawyers, and is in the habit of at least on two occasions bringing similar charges against lawyers whose clients prevailed against him. His son is an attorney who represented him in a number of cases, and he litigates his own matters with relish on other occasions. On information and belief he has been represented by at least ten different lawyers in the multitude of the suits brought by him and has been represented by counsel in all his dealings with me and my firm until, finally, I decided to sue him when he appeared as a defendant pro se. He exhibits considerable sophistication in the law, and is using his status as a layman as a sword not as a shield because, even when he is represented by the attorney he is in the habit of showing up and arguing his own motions on occasion.

Appendix A

9. All of the causes of action here although labeled according to certain legal precepts are in fact bottomed in a willful, malicious course of conduct circulating falsehoods, the willful infliction of mental distress, malicious prosecution, slander, conspiring to engage in a scheme to destroy the plaintiffs both in a professional capacity and in their mental and physical well-being. The scheme although the causes of action are broken down into each individual act on each occasion, is unmistakable as the defendant Klein with the participation of his co-defendants has decided to wreak havoc with our professional reputations, our peace of mind, our well-being and our finances by tying us up continually, by keeping us busy defending charges before administrative agencies, by running to various politicians, on information and belief, not limited to but including defendant Lewis, by a course of conduct which can only be described as two years of unmitigated and unrelenting hell which in scope and in its quality of pure evil is without parallel. Added to this is the fact that defendant Klein holds himself out as an Orthodox Rabbi, wears the garb of one, cuts a patriarchal figure on first impression and receives hearings from public agencies and officials which one would not ordinarily receive. He knows in his malice that wherever he makes complaints an investigation will follow and since we have been the targets of these investigations we are the recipent of this unlimited evil and tortious conduct.

10. Unfortunately we have no adequate remedy at law:

(a) I have asked the District Attorney's office for public protection. I spoke to one of the Assistant District Attorneys in March of 1968 and was advised that since the barratry section of the Penal Law has been eliminated in the new Penal

Law there is no criminal sanction available against the defendants and there is nothing the District Attorney can do to give me protection.

(b) Since I have read the minutes of supplementary proceedings of judgment creditors who have obtained judgments against defendant Klein I noted that he was judgment-proof and such insolvency was even to the point where he testified that the house he lived in was not his, the car he drove was not his, he received no pay, owned no property and was in effect judgment-proof. Obviously then this present action for damages is neither a true deterrent from his continued course of conduct nor is it, in a practical sense the kind of Sword of Damocles which would prevent the continued commission of these torts which, after all, cost him nothing. It is precisely for this reason that the complaint embodies injunctive relief and why this motion is so necessary to protect us from any further willful, malicious, tortious conduct on the part of the defendants until a trial may be had. We have no other protection, there is no other law criminal or civil that can possibly protect us, and we are mindful of the doctrine that equity must be tailored to meet the exigencies of the situation and to remedy the evil which it is designed to prevent.

11. We are not asking this Court for an injunction pendente lite which will go on for untold years. In fact, what we are saying is that after issue is joined by all parties and brief discovery proceedings are over i.e. depositions of the defendants are taken we shall be in a position to have the case go to an immediate trial in the fall.

In fact, a motion for a special preference because of the extraordinary conduct of the defendants will be sought for a trial in early fall. Of course, we are plagued with the problem that the defendants may, at their option make such motions as they see fit and, if there may be a decision adverse to either side an appeal on a purely procedural matter may be pending for some time. Therefore, although the matter coming to trial has great, in fact pressing urgency to us it may not in fact have such urgency to everyone in the law suit and this is precisely why we need an injunction pendente lite.

12. We are an established firm of attorneys engaged in the active practice of law and we have, I trust, an excellent credit rating and are known for our promptness and fairness in paying our bills. We are of the opinion that a bond is not truly needed under these circumstances should the Court be disposed to grant the relief sought. However, if the Court is of the opinion that a bond should be put up, we request that the bond be set in an amount which we can afford i.e. in the sum of One Thousand ($1,000.00) Dollars.

13. In view of the foregoing I respectfully request that an injunction pendente lite be made enjoining the defendants during the pendency of this law suit from making any further complaints, charges, from bringing on claims, causes of actions, civil litigation and other vexatious matters either criminal or civil in nature, against the plaintiffs, enjoining any further prosecution and harassment of the plaintiffs, their employees, partners, associates, and their respective families, and restraining the defendants from interfering with, molesting or harassing the plaintiffs, their associates, partners, employees, and

their respective families any further and in any other manner and that defendants be stayed during the pendency of this action from making directly or indirectly any contact with the plaintiffs, their partners, associates, employees and their respective families directly or indirectly in any manner except for making such applications to the Court and serving such papers in the presently pending actions as may be legally sanctioned.

s/ JOHN J. BOWER

Sworn to before me this
7th day of May, 1968

FRANCES MUCEDOLA
Notary Pubic, State of New York
No. 43-280725
Qualified in Richmond County
Commission Expires March 30, 1969

APPENDIX B

Order of the United States District Court

(Filed Mar. 30, 1971 S.D.N.Y.)

At a Motion Part of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York at the Court House, Foley Square, New York, New York on the 25th day of March, 1971.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

71 Civ. 213

ERNEST KLEIN,

Plaintiff,

—against—

JOHN J. BOWER, WILLIAM F. O'CONNOR, JOHN GARDNER, BOWER, O'CONNOR & GARDNER, a partnership, MARY ANNA MACUKAS, MARY ANN OATES, and CAROLYN SCHIFF,

Defendants.

Defendants, having moved this Court to dismiss the above captioned action pursuant to Rule 12 (b) and for summary judgment pursuant to Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on the basis that the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted,

that the Court lacks jurisdiction over the subject matter of the action as the claims asserted by the complaint are barred by the statute of limitations, collateral estoppel and res judicata, and the Court having read and filed the notice of motion dated February 2, 1971, the statement of John Gardner, Esq., pursuant to Rule 9 (g), thereto annexed, the affidavit of John Gardner, Esq., sworn to the 2nd day of February, 1971, and exhibits thereto annexed, all in support of said moving defendants' contentions and the motion having regularly come on to be heard before me on the 16th day of March, 1971, and Robert A. Katz, Esq., while not formally appearing in behalf of the plaintiff herein, but at his request, having been heard in oral argument on the motion, and the plaintiff being present in Court, and the Court further having held oral argument, and due deliberation having been had thereon,

Now, on motion of John Gardner, Esq., attorney for the defendants above named, it is

ORDERED, that the motion of the aforesaid defendants, for a dismissal and for summary judgment, be and the same hereby is granted in all respects and it is further

ORDERED, that the complaint in the action of the plaintiff against the aforesaid defendants be and the same hereby is dismissed, and it is further,

ORDERED, that judgment of dismissal be entered by the Clerk of the Court in favor of the aforesaid defendants against plaintiff.

Dated: New York, N. Y.
March 30, 1971

DUDLEY B. BONSAL
U.S.D.J.

Judgment entered 3-30-71

JOHN LIVINGSTON
Clerk

APPENDIX C

Memorandum and Order of the United States District Court

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

70 C 980

ERNEST KLEIN,

Petitioner,

—against—

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK,

Respondent.

On July 10, 1968, Petitioner had entered against him in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York, a formidable order enjoining him, *pendente lite* from interfering with John J. Bower, (a Lawyer) and his firm (Bower, O'Connor & Taylor) in their business and profession, from bringing any charge or instituting any claim or inquiry, public or private, against them, their employees or their families, from issuing any summonses, complaints or counterclaims (even in the pending action) against them, and from issuing any civil process against them; the order stayed all Petitioner's pending actions against Bower and his firm, enjoined the issu-

ance of any civil process against them or instigating its issuance, harassing Bower and his firm by the use of quasi-public or private agencies, from making or instigating the making of personal inquiries about Bower, his firm, its employees and their families, and from leading people to believe that Bower, his firm or its employees are under inquiry; the order requires Petitioner to cease and desist from in any way impugning the honesty or integrity or professional conduct of Bower, his firm, its employees and their families. The order of injunction was made in an action, not yet tried, against Petitioner and others for alleged tortious misconduct that, broadly, comprised alleged vexatious litigation, slander, and the use of a variety of harassing activities. The whole matter apparently grew out of financial transactions of Petitioner in 1958 with a securities firm represented by Bower, O'Connor & Taylor, or a predecessor firm; that transaction led to a 1961 state court suit against the securities firm, a banking firm, certain persons associated with the securities firm and John Bower: Tried to a jury before Mr. Justice Aurelio in New York County Supreme Court in April 1966, the action was dismissed at the close of plaintiff's case. The dismissal was affirmed unanimously and without opinion in the Appellate Division and leave to appeal was denied in the Appellate Division and in the Court of Appeals. Thereafter, in pursuit of an asserted belief that in the trial professed signatures of John Bower that he had testified were not in fact his were truly his signatures and that certain notarized papers were falsely notarized, plaintiff had taken much action, in the District Attorney's office, in the office of the Secretary of State, and, perhaps, elsewhere, that Bower and his firm aver was harassing beyond any possible privilege of the occasion. They sued, in the action in which

the injunction was made, for redress against the alleged harassment and to enjoin it.

Petitioner's significant claims here are that he has no viable remedy against the temporary injunction because he cannot show that he timely opposed it, and that (in consequence of the injunction) he has to this date been prevented from presenting his motion for a new trial in the case against the securities firm and Bower on the ground that the discovery of the allegedly fraudulent practices came only after the dismissal, so that there has never been a judicial evaluation of his evidence on that point.

The Petitioner asks this Court (1) whether he has not a constitutional right to complain to the Federal Reserve Board of Governors of violations of Regulations U and T by the securities firm and Bower without being in contempt of the preliminary injunction, (2) whether he cannot sue in this Court for violation of his civil rights under 18 U.S.C. §241. (See 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983, 1985(2)), and (3) for a ——— in that the preliminary injunction is ineffective for constitutional reasons.

Injunctions against vexatious litigants are not unknown in the federal courts (*American Optometric Ass'n* v. *Ritholz*, 7th Cir. 1939, 101 F.2d 883), and the power to make such an injunctive order and to enforce it by contempt procedures has been sustained. *Scott* v. *Hunt Oil Co.*, 5th Cir. 1968, 398 F.2d 810. The Court of primary and plenary jurisdiction is the Court to determine whether a basis exists for granting such an injunction, and the terms of any appropriate injunctive order. *Cf. Walston & Co., Inc.* v. *Klein*, N.Y.Co. 1964, 44 Misc. 2d 607, 254 N.Y.S. 2d 734, aff'd. 1st Dept. 1965, 24 App. Div. 2d 559, 260 N.Y.S. 2d 831; *Clinton* v. *United States*, 9th Cir.

1961, 297 F.2d 899; *Meredith* v. *John Deere Plow Co.*, 8th Cir. 1958, 261 F.2d 121.

Since the injunction complained of is not void with face, questions of its breadth and interpretation must be taken up with the Supreme Court, Queens County, in the first instance, and that is true of the present question about presenting a complaint to the Federal Reserve Board. *Cf. Klein* v. *Bower*, 2d Cir. 1970, 421 F.2d 338.

A jurisdiction in extraordinary cases does exist in the federal court to grant relief against the maintenance or pursuit of state court litigation under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, 1985(2). *Cf. Boltons* v. *Lindsley*, 10th Cir. 1948, 170 F.2d 705, 707; *Dinwiddie* v. *Brown*, 5th Cir. 1956, 230 F.2d 465, 469; *Sarelas* v. *Sheehan*, 7th Cir. 1963, 326 F.2d 490, 491-492. But such a jurisdiction is not to be exercised against a court as such (*Zuckerman* v. *Appellate Division*, 2d Cir. 1970, 421 F.2d 625), nor, indeed, can any such lie against a judge for acts he performs in the discharge of his office. *Pierson* v. *Ray*, 1967, 386 U.S. 547. If, therefore, a properly framed complaint that was not frivolous and which presented a substantial federal question could be in good faith presented to the federal court as against defendants suable under 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983, 1985 complaining of the injunction and its effect on rights that can invoke constitutional protection; such a filing could not compatibly with the purpose of 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983, 1985 be treated as automatically a contempt of the state court injunction; such a filing could, in the case of a good faith appeal on substantial grounds for redress against what was believed to be a deprivation of civil rights, be analogized to the filing of an appeal. That does not mean, however, that such a federal filing, if properly found to be a part of a course of vexatious litigation the continuance of which have been

enjoined by the State Court, could not ultimately be found to be a direct contempt of the State Court injunction.

It appears, then, that the only proper order to make at this time in the present proceeding in which, strictly, only the state court has been joined, or attempting to be joined, in an order dismissing the matter without prejudice to a proper suit under 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983, 1985 (2) if any such suit can be framed.

It is accordingly

Ordered that the Clerk enter judgment dismissing the petition without prejudice to the filing of an action properly framed under the Civil Rights Acts.

Brooklyn, New York
August 25, 1970

(Illegible)
U.S.D.J.

APPENDIX D

Order on Motion of the United States Court of Appeals

Motion, after hearing, is disposed of as follows:

(a) As to sub-division (a) denied as moot because plaintiff has in fact made the motion and has been heard in oral argument.

(b) As to sub-division (b) denied as unnecessary since, so far as this Court is concerned, plaintiff may appear by counsel if he so desires.

(c) As to sub-division (c) denied as inappropriate relief for this Court to grant, without prejudice to any rights plaintiff may have.

(d) As to sub-division (d) denied on the merits without expressing any opinion as to the merits of the motion said to have been made by defendants.

So Ordered:

Inzer B. Wyatt
U.S.D.J

January 11, 1971

APPENDIX E

Order of the United States Court of Appeals

#6 6/21/71 #71-1445

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
SECOND CIRCUIT

At a Stated Term of the United States Court of Appeals, in and for the Second Circuit, held at the United States Court House, in the City of New York, on the twenty-first day of June, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-one.

ERNEST KLEIN,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

v.

JOHN J. BOWER, WILLIAM F. O'CONNOR, JOHN GARDNER, BOWER, O'CONNOR & GARDNER A Partnership, MARY ANN OATES, MARRY ANNA MACUKAS and CAROLYN SCHIFF,

Defendants-Appellees.

It is hereby ordered that upon consideration of the motion made herein by appellant pro-se by notice of motion dated May 27, 1971 to declare that appellant has unrestricted right to retain counsel to represent him in the appeals herein; to declare that counsel so retained cannot be prosecuted for contempt of court; to extend the

time to perfect the appeals and to retain counsel; for leave to argue this motion without being placed in jeopardy or violation of the State Preliminary Injunction Order, that the motion to modify the State Court Injunction be and it hereby is denied.

A. DANIEL FUSARO,
Clerk

Before: HON. HENRY J. FRIENDLY,
Chief Judge,

HON. J. JOSEPH SMITH,
HON. PAUL R. HAYS,
Circuit Judges